

THIS WEEK IN TEXAS HISTORY

September 2011 – Week 1

Air Date: September 4 – September 10 (Sunday – Saturday)



TITLE: STONE FROM THE SKY

SEPTEMBER 1961 AND THE SKY IS FALLING OVER NORTH TEXAS.

THIS WEEK IN TEXAS HISTORY, BROUGHT TO YOU BY THIS STATION AND THE SAVE TEXAS HISTORY PROGRAM OF THE GENERAL LAND OFFICE.

SEPTEMBER 9, 1961. BELLS, IN GRAYSON COUNTY.

BELLS IS A QUIET TOWN, WITH ABOUT 700 RESIDENTS NOT MUCH HAS HAPPENED HERE SINCE THE RAILROAD CAME IN 1870.

BUT AT APPROXIMATELY 10 PM, A FIREBALL STREAKS ACROSS THE NIGHT SKY.

IT EXPLODES AND FRAGMENTS RAIN DOWN, ONE LARGE PIECE HITTING A NEARBY HOUSE. THE REMAINING BITS ARE SCATTERED ALONG A FOUR-MILE PATH.

THE SPACE VISITOR IS A RARE CARBONACEOUS CHONDRITE METEORITE. EVENTUALLY 10 OUNCES ARE FOUND, DOUBLING THE AMOUNT EVER FOUND ON EARTH.

PIECES OF THE STONE ARE NOW HOUSED AT THE MONNIG METEORITE MUSEUM AT TCU.

THE SKY FELL ON BELLS, 50 YEARS AGO, THIS WEEK IN TEXAS HISTORY.

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TEXAS GENERAL LAND OFFICE

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